



Goldilocks and the Three Bears

- Introduce your students to the story of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. We suggest these beautifully illustrated versions, which can be found online at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), or you can share the story summary found at the end of this document, which emphasizes these story elements:
 - Mama’s warning to Goldilocks to “be wise of the woods,” for bears live there, and Mama Bear’s warning to Little Bear to “be wise of the meadow,” for people live there.
 - Finding something that is “juuuust riiiiight”—not too hot or too cold, not too big or too small, and so on.
- The music for *Once Upon a Symphony* is found on this [Spotify](#) playlist. Here’s how the music helps to tell the story:
 - Movement 1 of Symphony No. 3 in E-flat Major, “Eroica” by Ludwig van Beethoven
 - This beautiful music from one of the most dramatic symphonies ever composed sets the scene for the forest, the home of the Three Bears.
 - *Golliwogg’s Cakewalk* from *Children’s Corner* by Claude Debussy
 - This bubbly, rhythmic music represents the Three Bears.
 - “Ballet of the Unhatched Chicks” from *Pictures From an Exhibition* by Modest Mussorgsky
 - This music represents the bird named Goldfinch, one of the main characters from our adaptation of this story.
 - *Shepherd Boy* from *Lyric Suite* by Edvard Grieg
 - This expressive, mysterious music represents the journey Goldilocks takes into the forest.
 - *Arietta* from *Lyric Pieces*, Book I by Edvard Grieg
 - This music represents Goldilocks’s sadness.
 - “Dormi, Dormi”
 - Goldilocks sings this traditional Italian lullaby to help herself fall asleep.

Goldilocks and the Three Bears

Story

English Fairy Tale

Adapted by Megan Wells

Summary by Jon Weber

Once upon a time there were three furry brown bears: Papa Bear, Mama Bear, and Little Bear. The Bears lived in a magical forest. They built their home inside a hill.

One day, when Mama put the hot soup on the table, Papa Bear said, "Time for a walk! That soup is TOOO hot!"

Little Bear said, "Whee! Let's go to the meadow!"

Mama warned, "Now son, be wise of the meadow, people live there."

"I'm not afraid of people!" said Little Bear as he raced into the woods ahead of Papa and Mama, pretending to be a little person instead of a Little Bear. The three bears went for a walk in the woods so the hot soup could cool until it was just right.

Once upon a time there was a little girl named Goldilocks. She lived in a cottage in a magical meadow, where she was friends with all of the animals. The squirrels and the rabbits and the chipmunks and the raccoons and all the birds loved Goldilocks, especially Goldfinch. Goldfinch was a very busy bird, flitting about the meadow, his yellow feathers as bright as the girl's hair. And she loved Goldilocks.

Goldilocks was a very busy girl, catching bugs, climbing trees and exploring the woods. Her Mama watched from the garden, and every now and again she would call out to Goldilocks. "Goldilocks, be wise of the woods, bears live there." Goldilocks would reply, "I'm not afraid of bears!" She loved bears and though she had never actually seen one, she loved to pretend to BE one.

One day, Goldilocks stomped into the woods. She went right when she ought to go left...and left when she ought to go right...and back when she ought to go forward...and forward when she ought to go back. When she looked up, she saw she was lost.

Goldilocks stopped by a house that was built into a hill. The door was unlocked, so she went inside, even though Goldfinch warned her, "There you are, Goldilocks! Don't go in there! That's not your home!"

In the kitchen, there was a table with three bowls of soup: big bowl, a medium bowl, and a small bowl.

Goldilocks was hungry, so she tried the big bowl, which she thought was too hot. The medium bowl was too cold, but the small bowl was just right and she ate it all up. Goldilocks realized that she had eaten a lot of soup—it was a bowl for a bear, after all—and her tummy hurt, so she looked for a chair where she could sit down.

She saw three chairs: a big chair, a medium chair, and a little chair. She sat down in the big chair, but it was too hard. She sat down in the medium chair, but it was too soft. She sat down in the little chair, and it was just right, but when she sat down, the chair broke, and Goldilocks started to cry.

After crying, Goldilocks wanted to lie down. She was very tired, so she looked for a place to sleep. She found three beds: a big bed, a medium bed, and a little bed. The big bed's pillow was too hard. The medium bed's pillow was too soft. But the little bed's pillow was just right and she fell fast asleep. Meanwhile, the bears returned from their walk to find out that someone had come into their house. Goldilocks sang to warn Goldilocks, "Goldilocks, the bears are home. Wake up!"

Mama bear said, "Look! Someone's been eating our soup!"
Papa bear said, "You are right! Someone's been eating my soup too!"
And Little Bear said "Someone's been eating my soup and ate it all gone!"

Goldilocks sang another warning to Goldilocks, who was still fast asleep.

Papa Bear said, "Someone's been sitting in my chair!"
Mama Bear said, "Someone's been sitting in my chair!"
And Little Bear said, "Someone's been sitting in my chair and broke it!"

Goldilocks sang another warning to Goldilocks...who was sound sleeping.

Papa Bear said, "Someone lay down upon my bed!"
Mama Bear said, "Someone lay down upon my bed!"

Goldilocks sang a final warning to Goldilocks, who woke up just as Little Bear found her in her bed.

"Papa! Mama! Someone lay down upon my bed! And there she is!!!!"

Goldilocks got up and ran out of the bear's house, with Goldilocks leading her through the woods back to her Mother and Father's house.

The End.